

Developing Cross Border Collaboration for Effective Disaster and Emergency Planning and Response

**Satellite Conference and Live Webcast
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Faculty

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Learning Objectives

- **To identify some of the issues that affect cross-border emergency response collaboration**
- **To identify key elements of Memorandums of Understanding and Mutual Aid Agreements**

Learning Objectives

- **To discuss incident command as it applies to cross-border incidents and response**
- **To explore the efficacy of drills and exercises in evaluating and improving cross-border emergency response**

Discussion Outline

- **Identification of Issues**
- **CDC Health Protection Goals**
- **Elements of Successful Regional Collaborations**

Issues in Cross-Border Collaboration

- **Organizational**
 - **Dissimilar organization of government-based and non-government based response agencies**
 - **Absence of common terminology**
 - **Communications**

Issues in Cross-Border Collaboration

- Organizational
 - Professional licensing and credentialing
 - Transportation
 - Command

Issues in Cross-Border Collaboration

- Financial
 - Reimbursements
 - Resource ownership and use
 - Accounting standards

Issues in Cross-Border Collaboration

- Operational
 - Triage standards
 - Staff and volunteer accreditation and identification
 - Joint training, drills, and exercises

CDC Health Protection Goals: People Prepared for Emerging Health Threats

- People in all communities will be protected from infectious, occupational, environmental, and terrorist threats

CDC Health Protection Goals: People Prepared for Emerging Health Threats

- Pre-event:
 - Increase the use and development of interventions
 - Decrease time needed to classify health events

CDC Health Protection Goals: People Prepared for Emerging Health Threats

- Pre-event:
 - Decrease time needed to detect and report chemical, biological, and radiological agents
 - Improve the timeliness and accuracy of communications

CDC Health Protection Goals: People Prepared for Emerging Health Threats

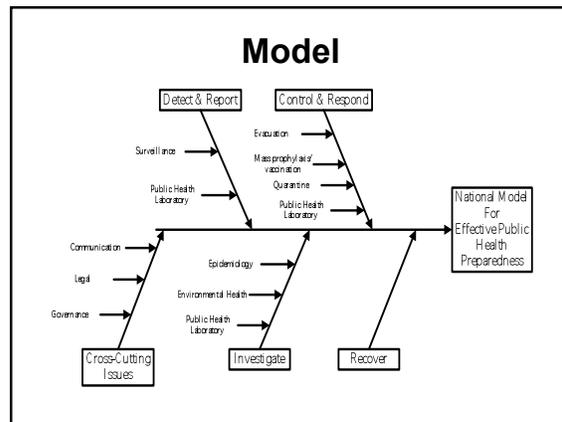
- **Event:**
 - Decrease time to identify causes, risk factors, and appropriate interventions
 - Decrease time needed to provide countermeasures and health guidance

CDC Health Protection Goals: People Prepared for Emerging Health Threats

- **Post-event:**
 - Decrease time needed to restore health services and environmental safety to pre-event levels
 - Improve long-term follow-up provided to those affected by threats

CDC Health Protection Goals: People Prepared for Emerging Health Threats

- **Post-event:**
 - Decrease time needed to implement recommendations from after-action reports



A Framework for Regional Collaboration

Functional Areas	People and Resources				
	Staff	Supplies	Specimens/Samples	Data/Info	Patients/Evacuees
PH Emergency Management					
Epidemiology					
PH Laboratory					
Environmental Health					
Cross-Cutting Areas					
Communication					
Legal					
Governance					

Elements of Successful Regional Collaboration-Staff

- **Establish formal agreements and protocols:**
 - Legalities about sending and receiving staff
 - Reciprocity of licensing and credentialing
 - Workers' compensation and death benefits
 - Liability insurance coverage

Elements of Successful Regional Collaboration-Staff

- Consistent language in job classifications and responsibilities
- Regular training programs

Elements of Successful Regional Collaboration-Supplies

- Establish consistent language for classifying supplies, material, and equipment
- Establish tracking and inventorying protocols
- Formal agreements for sharing resources and reimbursement

Elements of Successful Regional Collaboration-Laboratory Specimens

- Establish agreements between state public health laboratories for exchanging specimens and samples
- Include issues of compensation and reimbursement

Elements of Successful Regional Collaboration-Laboratory Specimens

- Formal protocols for the transportation of specimens and chain-of-custody protocols

Elements of Successful Regional Collaboration-Data/Information

- Cost-benefit analysis required because of system compatibility issues
- Need agreements and systems for efficient data exchange during emergencies
- Issues include data ownership and security

Elements of Successful Regional Collaboration-Victims and Evacuees

- Discuss with border partners on the feasibility and means for safely transporting victims across borders during emergencies
- Engage the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on consistency of Medicaid and insurance coverage for transported persons

Elements of Successful Regional Collaboration-Victims and Evacuees

- For states bordering Canada and Mexico, federal partners must be engaged

Elements of Successful Regional Collaboration-Communications

- The development of consistent risk communication messages
- Develop protocols for reaching special needs populations
- Establish sets of regional structures based on NIMS for communications with responders in the field

Elements of Successful Regional Collaboration-Legal

- Engage in conferences to identify issues and remedies concerning resource sharing and exchange, formal agreements, reimbursement and compensation, licensing and credentialing, etc.
- PNEMA (Pacific Northwest Emergency Management Agreement) is the model for international collaboration

Elements of Successful Regional Collaboration-Governance

- Develop agreement on formalized structure for regional decision making
- Annual regional planning conferences
- Multi-jurisdictional exercises